



January 9, 2008

INTRODUCTION TO ARMY BANDS

Thank you for your interest in the U.S. Army Band Program! You're being given or sent this packet because you have indicated a desire to learn more about a career in music in the Army. Hopefully this introduction will answer some of the questions you have, and help you understand exactly what being in an Army Band entails, and the advantages we offer to the aspiring musician.

The Army Band Program is changing dramatically. Only the most proficient musicians can pass the Army Band audition. This does not mean that we do not accept High School applicants. Hopefully this packet will inform you on the high level of skills necessary to join our program. It will not answer every question you may have, so contact a band liaison or your local recruiter to find out more about Army Bands.

The Army Band Program has a Band Liaison in various regions throughout the US. The addresses and numbers of each liaison are included in this paper. These Band Liaisons are available to give presentations at colleges, universities and high schools. Liaisons have been hand picked from the band program, trained at the Armed Forces School of Music, and are audition qualified, meaning they can give band auditions. Feel free to contact the liaison nearest you if you have any questions!

Another purpose of this packet is to explain the process and procedure for recruiting musicians into the U.S. Army. This information and more can be found at the U.S. Army Recruiting Command website: <http://band.goarmy.com> and the official Army Band website: <http://bands.army.mil>.

Army Band Recruiting Liaisons – 2008

NAME/TITLE/EMAIL	ADDRESS	PHONE	FAX
SFC TOM POWELL HQ USAREC Band Liaison thomas.powell@usarec.army.mil	HQ USAREC RO-SM-B 1307 3 rd AVENUE FT. KNOX, KY 40121	1-800-223-3735 ext. 6-0485 cell: 888-216-0960	502-626-0944
SFC ALBERT SANCHEZ 1st Recruiting BDE Band Liaison 1bde-band@usarec.army.mil	1ST RECRUITING BDE 4550 LLEWELLYN AVENUE FT. MEADE, MD 20755	301-677-3928 cell: 877-275-5786	301-677-2548 301-677-3634
SFC FRANK DERBY 2d Recruiting BDE Band Liaison 2bde-band@usarec.army.mil	2ND RECRUITING BDE 1295 HOOD AVENUE FOREST PARK, GA 30297-5104	404-469-5730 cell: 888-253-7671	404-361-5638
SGT DERRICK REED 3rd Recruiting BDE Band Liaison 3bde-band@usarec.army.mil	3RD RECRUITING BDE BLDG 6580 FORT KNOX, KY 40121	502-626-0228 cell: 888-684-4553	502-626-0749
SGT RYAN WESTBROOK 5th Recruiting BDE Band Liaison 5bde-band@usarec.army.mil	5TH RECRUITING BDE P.O. Box 8277 Wainwright Station SAN ANTONIO, TX 78208-0277	210-295-8738 cell: 888-301-1754	210-225-6647
SFC FRANK COLE SSG ADRIAN RAMON 6th Recruiting BDE Band Liaisons 6bde-bands@usarec.army.mil	6TH RECRUITING BDE 4539 N. 5th STREET N. LAS VEGAS, NV 89031-2548	702-639-2048 702-639-2049 cell: 877-295-4053 877-874-4370	702-639-2039

Instruments in an Army Band

Here is a list of Army Band Instruments
(or MOS's; Military Occupational Specialty with ASI; Additional Skill Identifier):

MOS	ASI	INSTRUMENT
42R	9B	TRUMPET
42R	9C	EUPHONIUM
42R	9D	FRENCH HORN
42R	9E	TROMBONE
42R	9F	TUBA
42R	9G	FLUTE
42R	9H*	OBOE
42R	9J	CLARINET
42R	9K*	BASSOON
42R	9L	SAXOPHONE
42R	9M	PERCUSSION
42R	9N	KEYBOARD
42R	9T	ELECTRIC GUITAR
42R	9U	ELECTRIC BASS

Your Band Liaison will have current information on which of the instrumental vacancies are still available for the year.

*Because of limited position availability, these instrumental positions are required to perform at a higher proficiency level.

ARMY BAND AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

The following is required for an Army Band audition.

1. Percussion

- a. 2 Prepared selections (1 rudimental and 1 concert solo), grade 4 or higher on Snare
- b. Rudiments on Snare from the Standard 26 Rudiments, memorized
- c. Major scales on a Mallet up to two sharps and two flats, 2 octaves with arpeggios, memorized
- d. Demonstrate the following idioms on Drum Set: Swing, Rock, Funk and multiple Latin styles (Bossa Nova, Rhumba, Cha-cha)
- e. Sight read representative literature on Snare Drum, Drum Set (lead sheet or kick sheet) and a Mallet instrument
- f. Snare (50%), Drum Set (40%), Mallet (10%)

2. Woodwind and Brass

- a. Prepared selection, grade 4 or higher (40%)
- b. Major scales and Minor scales with arpeggios, 2 octaves, memorized (10%). Oboe and bassoon major and minor (all forms) scales w/ arpeggios, 2 octaves, memorized.
- c. Sight read representative literature (marches, concert and jazz) (50%)

3. Keyboard

- a. Prepared selection from each of the following styles: Swing, Pop/Rock, Ballad, Latin and Classical (optional) (40%)
- b. Major scales with arpeggios, 2 octaves, memorized, both hands (10%)
- c. Comprehension of Maj⁷, Dom⁷, and min⁷ chords in root-position four-note voicings, and the major ii-V7-I progression in any key
- d. Sight read representative literature and chord changes

* Items c. and d. (50%)

4. Electric Guitar and Electric Bass

- a. Prepared selection from each of the following styles: Swing, Pop/Rock, Ballad and Latin styles (Bossa Nova, Rhumba, Cha-cha) (40%)
- b. Major scales with arpeggios, 2 octaves, memorized (starting on the 1st, 2nd and 4th fingers) (10%)
- c. Comprehension the following chords: Maj 7, min 7, Dom 7, min 7 flat 5
- d. Sight read representative literature: lead lines, bass lines (Bass only), chord changes, and the ii-V7-I progression

* items c. and d. (50%)

Advantages of the Army Band Program

Here are some points you may want to consider when thinking about the Army Band Program:

1. Higher pay scale. Acceptance into the Army Band Program is considered a Civilian Acquired Skill with pay grade beginning at E-4. After that, promotions are based on your merits.
2. It is a steady, secure job, performing music, which is difficult to find outside of the Army in civilian life.
3. You can get paid for doing what you love to do.
4. *For information on specific benefits and incentives, see page 8 or contact an Army Band Liaison.*

Frequently Asked Questions About the Army Band Program

Who can join an Army Band? Any musician, male or female, between the ages of 17 and 41, who has met Army enlistment standards and can pass a pre-arranged audition by an Army Band Liaison or Active Duty Band Commander, can join an Army Band. An Army recruiter will arrange the audition by contacting a Band Liaison or the nearest Active Duty Army Band.

How well do I have to play? The main interest is in your sight-reading ability and demonstrated musicianship, i.e. tone, technique, rhythm, and intonation. Perfection is not expected, but honest effort is. If you pass the audition, the Army will assist you in learning and growing as a musician.

Why do oboe and bassoon players have to play at a higher level? Because of the limited positions available for these instruments.

Where may I audition? Audition locations will be arranged on an individual basis.

If I take an audition, do I have to enlist? No, you are under no obligation to enlist.

What rank will I be? Those who pass the audition may enlist at the advanced pay grade of E-4.

How will I advance in rank? Upon graduation from the School of Music, you will advance in rank based on your merits.

Why are Army musicians enlisted at these advanced grades? To become an Army musician, you must be able to play an instrument proficiently. The Army considers this a Civilian Acquired Skill. This usually means that prior to enlistment, you had many years of training and practice to learn this skill. Your civilian musical training enables you to enlist at these advanced grades.

What other benefits will I receive? Service members are entitled to free medical and dental care, thirty days paid vacation per year, food allowance, housing allowance, life insurance at low rates, and Post Exchange and Commissary privileges. Family members receive free medical care and very low cost dental care.

What is a typical work day like? Typically, bands rehearse from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., break for lunch, then rehearse from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. These rehearsals may be of any type from full wind ensemble to small groups to sectionals, depending on what needs to be accomplished. Before and after rehearsals, part of the day is spent on training and administrative duties.

How many days a week does an Army Band work? Most Army Bands work Monday through Friday. When commitments involve working on the weekend, the band members are normally given another day of the week off to compensate.

What happens if I fail the audition? If you fail the audition, you will be told in which areas you need improvement and how you can correct them. You'll also be informed that you may return at a later date to re-audition.

Can I choose my assignment? You will be provided a list of assignment choices based on current vacancies for your instrument.

Do I have to attend Basic Training? Yes, all Army musicians are required to attend Basic Training.

Do I have to attend the School of Music (Advanced Individual Training)? Yes, you will attend the Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, VA. The course is six months long, but if you meet graduation standards, you may graduate early.

Current Benefits

Civilian Acquired Skill Program (ACASP) Enlistment Bonus **\$5,000**

Rank of Specialist/E-4 upon Enlistment (ACASP)

Station of Choice from available bands 90 days prior to Basic Training departure date

Post-Secondary Education (High Grad) Bonus for all instruments:

30-59 or more college credit hours	\$3,000
60 or more college credit hours	\$6,000
Associate Degree	\$7,000
Bachelor Degree or higher	\$8,000

Choice of College Loan Repayment OR Army College Fund:

College Loan Repayment for all instruments* **up to \$65,000**

*(Cannot use in conjunction with Army College Fund listed below)

Additional enlistment bonus options when College Loan Repayment is chosen for Horn, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Trumpet, Guitar, Electric Guitar and Keyboard instruments:

Enlistment Years	Bonus Amount
3	3,000 (4,000 for Keyboard)
4	4,000 (6,000 for Keyboard)
5	\$6,000 (8,000 for Keyboard)
6	8,000 (12,000 for Keyboard)

Army College Fund**

**Cannot use in conjunction with College Loan Repayment listed above)

Enlistment Years	ACF Amount
3	52,000
4	63,000
5	70,000
6	73,000

Additional enlistment bonus options when Army College Fund is chosen for Horn, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Trumpet, Guitar, Electric Guitar and Keyboard instruments:

Enlistment Years	Bonus Amount
3	1,000 (2,000 for Keyboard)
4	2,000 (3,000 for Keyboard)
5	3,000 (4,000 for Keyboard)
6	4,000 (5,000 for Keyboard)

Enlistment Bonus amounts for Trumpet, Horn, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Keyboard, Guitar and Electric Bass (without taking Army College Fund):

- \$4,000 for 3 year enlistment / \$5,000 for Keyboard
- \$5,000 for 4 year enlistment / \$10,000 for Keyboard
- \$10,000 for 5 year enlistment / \$15,000 for Keyboard
- 15,000 for 6 year enlistment / \$20,000 for Keyboard

*** Maximum bonus allowed for 3 year enlistment is \$15,000 ***

Amounts are subject to change...contact your Brigade Liaison for the latest benefits and incentives

Army Band Locations

Premiere Bands

US Army Band “Pershing’s Own”	Fort Myer	Washington, DC
US Army Field Band & Chorus	Fort Meade	Ft. Meade, MD
US Military Academy Band	West Point	West Point, NY
Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps	Fort Myer	Washington, DC

Army Bands in the Continental US

1 st Cavalry Division Band	Fort Hood	Killeen, TX
1 st Infantry Division Band	Fort Riley	Manhattan, KS
3 rd Infantry Division Band	Fort Stewart	Hinesville, GA
4 th Infantry Division Band	Fort Hood	Killeen, TX
10 th Mountain Division Band	Fort Drum	Watertown, NY
36 th Army Band	Fort Huachuca	Sierra Vista, AZ
56 th Army Band	Fort Lewis	Tacoma, WA
62 nd Army Band	Fort Bliss	El Paso, TX
77 th Army Band	Fort Sill	Lawton, OK
82 nd Airborne Division Band	Fort Bragg	Fayetteville, NC
98 th Army Band	Fort Rucker	Dothan, AL
101 st Airborne Division Band	Fort Campbell	Hopkinsville, KY
113 th Army Band	Fort Knox	Radcliff, KY
282 nd Army Band	Fort Jackson	Columbia, SC
392 nd Army Band	Fort Lee	Petersburg, VA
399 th Army Band	Fort Leonard Wood	Waynesville, MO
434 th Army Band	Fort Gordon	Augusta, GA
Army Ground Forces Band	Fort McPherson	Atlanta, GA
Army Materiel Command Band	Aberdeen Prov Gnd	Aberdeen, MD
Infantry Center Band	Fort Benning	Columbus, GA
Medical Command Band	Fort Sam Houston	San Antonio, TX
Training and Doctrine Command Band	Fort Monroe	Hampton, VA

Army Bands Overseas

1 st Armored Division Band	Wiesbaden	Germany
2 nd Infantry Division Band	Uijongbu	South Korea
8 th Army Band	Seoul	South Korea
9 th Army Band	Fort Wainwright	Fairbanks, AK
25 th Infantry Division Band	Schofield Barracks	Oahu, Hawaii
76 th Army Band	Mannheim	Germany
US Army Japan Band	Camp Zama	Tokyo, Japan
US Army Europe Band	Heidelberg	Germany

Comments and Feedback

I hope this packet has been helpful in answering questions you have about the Army Band Program. Comments and suggestions concerning this document are welcome, and should be directed to:

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U.S. Army Recruiting Command

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Ft. Knox, KY 40121

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URL: <http://band.goarmy.com/> or
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